

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. – 84. (Canceled).

85. (Currently Amended) A home media system comprising:

network;

acquisition storage set-top box, coupled to said network, for storing ~~at least one digital data content object comprising an executable file~~ a plurality of different types of digital data content objects comprising executable files, the executable files comprising video, audio, and image files containing media;

control/playback set-top box, coupled to said network, comprising a media playback module and a media control module, said media control module ~~comprising an applications module~~ for accessing, across said network, at least one digital data content object from said acquisition storage set-top box, and for running at least one ~~media application~~ of a plurality of media applications that ~~provides~~ provide functionality, through a user interface, to play media, said plurality of media applications comprising a video application for playing video files, an audio application for playing audio files, and a photo application for viewing image files, said media playback module for executing said digital data content object comprising an executable file; and

plurality of client devices ~~client device~~, coupled to said control/playback set-top box, the plurality of client devices comprising a display client device for displaying said user interface for said media application and for displaying video or image media comprised in said video or image files and an audio client device for playing audio media comprised in said audio files ~~digital data content object~~.

86. (Previously Presented) The home media system as set forth in claim 85, wherein said acquisition storage set-top box further for acquiring said digital data content object external to said network.

87. (Canceled)

88. (Previously Presented) The home media system as set forth in claim 85, wherein said control/playback set-top box comprises a personal computer system.

89. (Previously Presented) The home media system as set forth in claim 85, wherein said playback module of said control/playback set-top box comprises a frame buffer.

90. (Previously Presented) The home media system as set forth in claim 85, further comprising a personal digital assistant ("PDA") for receiving user input to control said control/playback set-top box.

91. (Previously Presented) The home media system as set forth in claim 85, further comprising a personal computer for organizing a plurality of digital data content objects stored on said acquisition storage set-top box.

92. (Previously Presented) The home media system as set forth in claim 85, wherein the control/playback set-top box further comprises an access control module for receiving, from a remote control, a user request for a particular digital data content object and for extracting a unique identification of the remote control from the user request, said unique identification being used to restrict access to the particular digital data content object.

93. (Previously Presented) The home media system as set forth in claim 85, further comprising:

digital device for accessing digital data stored on a digital medium; and

device interface, coupled to said digital device, for decoding said digital data and for transmitting said digital data on said network.

94. – 114. (Canceled).

115. (New) The home media system as set forth in claim 85, wherein said audio client device is configured to only play audio media in audio files and not being configured to display video or image media in video or image files.

116. (New) The home media system as set forth in claim 115, wherein said audio client device comprises a stereo system.